



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
National Center for Preservation Technology and Training  
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## Course on Engineering for Older and Historic Buildings to be Offered June 14-24

The National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT) will present two one-week classes June 14-24 to introduce the issues and technical challenges encountered in older and historic buildings. This unique program is aimed at engineers and related professionals who have structural engineering experience and have an interest in the specific engineering issues of historic structures. For more details and to apply, visit the website [www.ncptt.nps.gov/summerinstitute](http://www.ncptt.nps.gov/summerinstitute).

Courses that are part of the *Engineering for Older and Historic Buildings* curriculum can be taken individually or combined for a full two-week introduction to Preservation Engineering. Topics include 1.) Materials and Older Buildings 2.) and Diagnostics Methodology and Treatment Strategy and Interventions. Tuition for each course is \$895 with a \$100 discount for AIA and AEI members. Student scholarships are available. The training is also eligible for Professional Development credit from the AIA Historic Resources Committee and ASCE Architectural Engineering Institute.

The program will examine several nationally-significant structures at the Cane River Creole National Historical Park and Cane River National Heritage Area near NCPTT headquarters in Natchitoches, Louisiana. Established in the late 18th century by former slaves who themselves became wealthy planters, the grounds of Yucca Plantation (now known as Melrose Plantation) contain some of the oldest structures built by persons of African heritage for their own use in the United States. Oakland Plantation is one of the nation's most complete expressions of the rural French Creole building tradition and is one of the few large plantation complexes remaining in the South. In 1998, Oakland Plantation was acquired by the National Park Service and is open daily for tours. Participants will enjoy a tour and reception at the park.

This is the second year *Engineering for Older and Historic Buildings* has been offered as part of NCPTT's Summer Institute. While the 2005 Summer Institute focuses on *Engineering for Older and Historic Buildings* developed by NCPTT's Architecture & Engineering program, future offerings will include courses developed by the Materials Research, Archeology, and Historic Landscapes programs as well as partner organizations.

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**About NCPTT:** The National Center for Preservation Technology and Training is using technology to serve the future of America's heritage through applied research and professional training. Since its founding in 1994, NCPTT has awarded over \$5 million in grants for research that advances the use of science and technology in historic preservation. Working in the fields of archeology, architecture, landscape architecture and materials conservation, the Center accomplishes its mission through training, education, research, technology transfer and partnerships. The Center is located in Lee H. Nelson Hall on the campus of Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana. For more information about NCPTT, visit the Center's website: [www.ncptt.nps.gov](http://www.ncptt.nps.gov).